

SYN. NO. _____

AGN. NO. _____

MOTION BY SUPERVISORS KNABE & BURKE

August 26, 2003

On June 4, 2002, the County Board of Supervisors approved the Safe Haven Task Force recommendations that included 12 recommendations to effectively implement the Newborn Abandonment Law (SB 1368), often referred to as the "Safely Surrendered Baby Law" in Los Angeles County. Included was a recommendation to expand the number of Safe Surrender sites.

SB 1368 allows the Board of Supervisors to expand the number of Safe Surrender sites beyond the private or public hospital emergency rooms designated by law. Subsequently, the Board has exercised that authority and designated fire stations in 17 cities as Safe Surrender locations. The Board has continued to actively recruit municipal fire departments to participate in the County's Safe Surrender program.

Today, the city of Compton is requesting that the Board include their fire stations as Safe Surrender sites:

- M O R E -

MOTION

MOLINA _____

YAROSLAVSKY _____

KNABE _____

ANTONOVICH _____

BURKE _____

WE, THEREFORE, MOVE THAT THE BOARD:

1. Adopt resolutions designating the City of Compton Fire Department fire stations as Safe Surrender sites in the County of Los Angeles, effective August 26, 2003;
2. Request the Fire Chiefs of said cities to designate the classes of employees required to take physical custody of these infants, as required by Penal Code Section 271.5;
3. Request that said cities utilize the safe surrender kits developed by the County or similar ones developed by the individual city;
4. Request the designated cities' fire stations to prominently display the uniform Safe Surrender logo at the entrance to their facilities.

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JM:cm

**RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE COUNTY OF
LOS ANGELES DESIGNATING FIRE STATIONS IN THE CITY OF EL SEGUNDO AS
SAFE SURRENDER SITES**

WHEREAS, the Board of Supervisors of Los Angeles County and the City of Compton, California are concerned with the growing number of newborn infants abandoned in Los Angeles County; and

WHEREAS, the State of California passed SB 1368, the Newborn Abandonment Law, often referred to as the "Safe Surrender Law," that provides that no parent or other person having lawful custody of a minor child 72 hours old or younger may be prosecuted for child abandonment if he or she voluntarily surrenders physical custody of a child to any employee on duty at a public or private hospital emergency room, or any additional location designated by the Board of Supervisors; and

WHEREAS, on June 4, 2002, the Board of Supervisors approved 12 recommendations by the Safe Surrender Task Force to effectively implement the Safe Surrender Law in Los Angeles County that recommended the creation of additional Safe Surrender sites, such as County fire stations, to improve access to places where parents may safely surrender their infants; and

WHEREAS, the Fire Chief has determined the feasibility of implementing Safe Surrender sites at all City of Compton Fire Department fire stations, under current law, and upon adoption of this resolution will designate appropriate employees required to take physical custody of a surrendered newborn, pursuant to Health and Safety Code Section 1255.7; and

WHEREAS, this Board of Supervisors hereby finds and declares this resolution is being adopted pursuant to the powers granted by law.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Supervisors of the County of Los Angeles designates City of Compton Fire Department fire stations as Safe Surrender sites, effective August 26, 2003, and directs the Fire Chief to designate the employees required to take physical custody of a surrendered newborn as stipulated by Penal Code Section 271.5.

- M O R E -

MOTION

MOLINA_____

YAROSLAVSKY_____

KNABE_____

ANTONOVICH_____

BURKE_____

The foregoing resolution was on the 26 day of August, 2003, adopted by the Board of Supervisors of the County of Los Angeles and ex officio the governing body of all other special assessment and taxing districts, agencies and authorities for which said Board so acts.

VIOLET VARONA-LUKENS, Executive Officer – Clerk of the
Board of Supervisors of the County of Los Angeles

Deputy

APPROVED AS TO FORM:
Lloyd W. Pellman
County Counsel

By: _____
Deputy